

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1-15 are allowed. Claims 16-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. The Specification is objected to due to inconsistencies therein. Claim 10 has been cancelled.

In order to clarify the invention, Claims 1, 8 and 16 have been amended to be consistent with the Examples. It is apparent that confusion has arisen in that the overall reaction of the glassy matrix primarily occurs by the reaction of the alkoxy-functionalized siloxane and the functionally-terminated siloxane or silane. The polymethylsilsequioxane (PMSS) dissolved in the crosslinking agent also reacts with these components and becomes part of the glassy matrix. Thus as amended, the glassy matrix comprises all three components. In operation, the glassy matrix may be formed by either reaching the other two components and then reacting with the dissolved PMSS or reacting the components all together as in the Examples.


Applicants believe that the amendments to the claims render the claims including Claim 16 consistent with the Examples, and respectfully requests that the § 112 rejections be withdrawn. If the Examiner finds that the amendments do not overcome the rejection under Section 112, Applicants solicit the Examiner's suggestions as to a satisfactory amendment.

In re: Simendinger et al.
Application No.: 10/814,213
Filed: March 31, 2004
Page 7

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and the same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any small matters outstanding of resolution, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 919-854-1400 for expeditious handling.

Respectfully submitted,

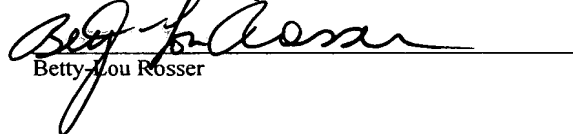


F. Michael Sajovec
Registration No.: 31,793

USPTO Customer No. 20792
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone: 919/854-1400
Facsimile: 919/854-1401

Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22315-1450 on April 20, 2005.


Betty Lou Rosser